



ITW

PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. WEAT/0359.P1

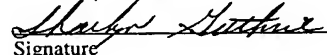
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Richard L. Giroux, et al.  
  
Serial No.: 10/775,048  
  
Confirmation No.: 8979  
  
Filed: February 9, 2004  
  
For: Methods And Apparatus  
For Wellbore Construction  
And Completion

§  
§  
§ Group Art Unit: 3672  
§  
§  
§  
§ Examiner: Unknown  
§  
§ Customer No.: 36735  
§  
§  
§

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>September 1, 2004</u>	
Sharlyn Guthrie	
Typed Name	Signature

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Applicants, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While the information submitted in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

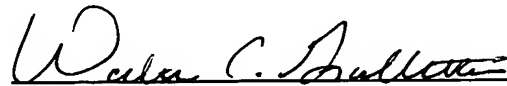
In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

Applicants certify that all references submitted with this disclosure were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office dated August 6, 2004, which communication is enclosed, not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0359.P1/WCG.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter C. Grollitsch  
Registration No. 48,678  
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056  
Telephone: (713) 623-4844  
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846  
Attorney for Applicants

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

SEP 07 2004

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/775,048
Filing Date	February 9, 2004
First Named Inventor	Richard L. Giroux
Group Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	WEAT/0359.P1
Submission Date	September 1, 2004

Sheet 1 of 2

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A1	US-6,419,033	07-16-2002	Hahn, et al.	
	A2	US-6,263,987	07-24-2001	Vail, III	
	A3	US-5,472,057	12-05-1995	Winfrey	
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			
	A12	US-			
	A13	US-			
	A14	US-			
	A15	US-			
	A16	US-			
	A17	US-			
	A18	US-			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B1	WO 03/087525	10-23-2003	Vincent, et al.		
	B2	GB 2 216 926	10-18-1989	Habib		
	B3					
	B4					
	B5					

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/775,048
Filing Date	February 9, 2004
First Named Inventor	Richard L. Giroux
Group Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	WEAT/0359.P1
Submission Date	September 1, 2004

Sheet 2

of 2

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		TOMMY WARREN, BRUCE HOUTCHENS, and W. R. PORTAS, JR., Part II: Casing Drilling With Directional Steering In The U.S. Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Pages 40-42, February 2001	
		TOMMY WARREN, BRUCE HOUTCHENS, and W. R. PORTAS, JR., Casing Drilling With Directional Steering In The U.S. Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Pages 50, 52-53, January 2001	
		BRIAN TARR and RICHARD SUKUP, Casing-While-Drilling: The Next Step Change In Well Construction, World Oil, Pages 34, 36, 38, 30, 40, October 1999	
		DETLEF HAHN, FRIEDHELM MAKOHL, and LARRY WATKINS, Casing-While-Drilling System Reduces Hole Collapse Risks, Offshore, Pages 54, 56, 59, February 1998	
		PCT Partial International Search Report, International Application No. PCT/US2004/003702, dated August 6, 2004	

Examiner

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.